

2018-2019 Upper School Dress Code

In the Upper School, our intention is to have a reasonable and appropriate dress code that provides for student safety and well-being. Our dress reflects McDonogh's focus on the academic environment with the purpose of serious classroom study. Recognizing that the vagaries of fashion can be unduly expensive and often fuel competition among students, we wish to avoid these distractions by promoting a dress code that reflects our desire for students to be neat, clean, and comfortable while attending school. The guidelines below outline our expectations for student dress and grooming. The dress code is in effect during the academic day (8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.). All students are required to wear clothing from Dennis School Uniforms or Lands' End with the exception of navy blazers and boys' pants.

Upper School students are expected to respect the spirit of the dress code, not simply the letter of the code. Students whose dress is inappropriate for school may receive a disciplinary consequence and may be required to change clothing for the day. We understand that some students have cultural or religious values that may not align with our dress code. Students are encouraged to discuss proposed alternatives with the grade-level dean.

There are three types of dress days in the Upper School: regular dress, special dress, and casual dress. Regular dress applies to every school day unless told otherwise by teachers and the administration.

Regular Dress (most school days)

Students may wear:

- Dennis or Lands' End pants (girls) in khaki or black and dress cotton twill pants from any vendor (boys) in khaki or black. (No jogger-style, stretch, denim, corduroy, or cargo style pants; no patch pockets, outside stitching, side zippers or studs allowed. Pants should fit appropriately; excessively loose or tight pants are unacceptable. Pants must have belt loops.
- Dennis or Lands' End skorts (girls) in khaki, black, or blue plaid **no shorter than mid-thigh**.
- Dennis or Lands' End oxford shirts in white or light blue with the embroidered M; both long-sleeved and short-sleeved are permitted (all genders).
- Ties are required and must be visible during the academic day, and collar buttons must be fastened (boys; girls optional).

Guidelines for All

- All uniform items must be in good repair without frayed hems or tears.
- **Second Layer Tops:** Students may wear any solid black, gray, orange or white top, sweatshirt, jacket, sweater, or vest that meets one of the following criteria: 1) plain; no logo, 2) McDonogh-branded, or 3) a non-McDonogh logo smaller than the palm of the hand. Students may not wear hoods in school buildings during the academic day. T-shirts, multi-colored tops, and larger logo/printed tops are not permitted. Seniors may wear college sweatshirts once the Senior Class Dean announces it.

- **Shirts:** Any top or t-shirt that is worn under the oxford shirt must be plain white with sleeves no longer than the shirt's sleeves. Shirts must be tucked in with the exception of the finished girls' shirts.
- **Belts:** If pants have belt loops, a belt must be worn.
- **Shoes:** Students must wear brown or black leather/suede or leather-like dress shoes, excluding athletic shoes, work boots, and Uggs-style boots. All shoes must be closed toe and closed heel. During the colder months, the Upper School Head will determine when it is appropriate to wear boots. Rain boots are permitted on rainy days.
- **Leggings:** Spandex and leggings must be solid, non-lace, neutral colors.
- **Jewelry:** Girls may wear earrings; boys may not. No one may wear jewelry in pierced body parts other than the ears.
- **Hair:** Hair is to be kept clean, neat, and well-groomed, avoiding extremes of style. Hair dyed to a color other than those found in the natural spectrum of human hair is not permitted.
- **Facial Hair:** Boys are to be well-groomed and clean-shaven at all times. Boys who have a medical condition that precludes shaving are expected to present a letter to the class dean from a physician confirming the condition.
- **Hats:** Hats are not permitted in the building at any time.
- **Headwear:** Headwear worn for religious reasons is permissible but must be worn in such a way that doesn't interfere with direct eye contact.

Note: We reserve the right to revise the dress code at any time during the school year.

Special McDonogh Dress

The following attire should be worn for Founder's Day, the Cum Laude Ceremony, Headmaster's Day, the Scholarship Luncheon, Memorial Day, and other designated events.

Students may wear:

- Navy blue blazer with McDonogh seal appropriately attached (no safety pins, staples etc.)
- White or light blue oxford shirt with collar and the embroidered M
- Khaki skort (girls)
- Khaki dress pants with belt
- Dress shoes (no boots)
- Solid, neutral color socks
- Solid, neutral color leggings
- Solid navy sweater (no sweatshirts or other sweaters permitted)
- McDonogh tie (boys required; girls optional)

Note: The McDonogh seal and tie are sold in the school store. Please make sure that your name is in your blazer in such a way that it cannot be removed.

Casual Dress

Occasionally, the Upper School will have a casual dress day in place of regular dress. Students should dress appropriately for school. Below are guidelines for casual dress:

- Bathing suits are not allowed.
- Clothing with messages about alcohol, drugs, or similar illegal substances are not permitted.
- Students may not wear halter tops, camisoles, tube tops, spaghetti straps, or similar items that leave the back, shoulders, and midriffs bare. Exceedingly tight shirts and low-cut or revealing necklines are not appropriate for school.
- Exceedingly short shorts or skirts should not be worn.
- On Halloween or special Spirit Dress days, students must dress appropriately for school – fully clothed, nothing revealing, provocative, or too scary. Weapons or other props may not be carried.

You may place orders through McDonogh's School Store, Lands' End or Arthur's Uniforms:

- **McDonogh's School Store**
 - Sample sizes will be available in the store for fitting purposes and orders may be placed either in-store or online. Uniform items can be sent directly to your home or be picked up in the school store during regular business hours.
 - The store will resume its regular schedule on August 13 (Tax-free Week). Hours are Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **Lands' End School Uniforms** <http://www.landsend.com>
 - Orders may be made online or by phone at 1.800.963.4816. A Customer Care Specialist is available 24/7. Make your returns at any Lands' End Shop at Sears.
 - Be sure to purchase approved dress code products ONLY (not the "You Might Also Like" items that may appear on your screen).
- **Dennis School Uniforms** <https://www.dennisuniform.com/schools/BTAOMN>
 - School Code: BTAOMN
 - Orders may be made online or by phone at 1.800.854.6951

As always, we expect our students to meet our expectations by following the dress code. It is our intent to reinforce these expectations throughout the school year. We ask that parents support the school with regard to the students' adherence to the dress code. Any questions regarding the dress code should be directed to your child's class dean.

Alex Gardner

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Freshmen Class Dean

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